

South Carolina Department of Insurance

Capitol Center
1201 Main Street, Suite 1000
Columbia, South Carolina 29201


MARK SANFORD
Governor

SCOTT H. RICHARDSON
Director of Insurance

Mailing Address:
P.O. Box 100105, Columbia, S.C. 29202-3105
Telephone: (803) 737-6160

BULLETIN NUMBER 2008-12

TO: Insurers Writing Credit Accident and Health Insurance in South Carolina in Conjunction Consumer Credit Transactions subject to the South Carolina Consumer Protection Code (S.C. Code Ann. § 37-1-101 et seq.), Other Than Loans Made Under Act 988 of 1966

FROM: Scott H. Richardson 
Director

SUBJECT: Notice of Tentative Credit Accident and Health Insurance Rates and Opportunity to Request a Hearing

DATE: August 1, 2008

I. Notice of Tentative Credit Accident and Health Insurance Rates

Regulation 69-11 requires the Department to promulgate tentative rates for credit accident and health insurance by August 1 of each year. The tentative rates are those the Department believes may reasonably be expected to produce a loss ratio of not less than 50% in the following calendar year. This bulletin constitutes official notice of the tentative rates for 2009.

The South Carolina Department of Insurance has reviewed the experience for the past several years for the above described credit accident and health insurance. The aggregate loss ratio for credit accident and health insurance at the prima facie rates has decreased steadily since 2003. Specifically, the loss ratio was 69.4% in 2003, 57.3% in 2004, 52.5% in 2005, 47.6% in 2006, and 46.8% in 2007. The current aggregate loss ratio is not significantly less than the benchmark loss ratio of 50%. In light of this and the ongoing credit crisis and possible national economic recession, the tentative rates proposed for 2009 for both 14-Day Retro and 30-Day Retro coverage are unchanged from the 2008 rates.

The tentative single premium rates per \$100 of initial indebtedness proposed for 2009 for both types of insurance are listed below for your convenience:

<i>Period</i>	<i>14-Day Retro</i>	<i>30-Day Retro</i>
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12 Months	\$1.70	\$1.60
24 Months	2.30	2.20
36 Months	2.90	2.80
48 Months	3.40	3.30
60 Months	3.90	3.80
72 Months	4.30	4.20
84 Months	4.70	4.60
96 Months	5.00	4.90
108 Months	5.30	5.20
120 Months	5.60	5.50
132 Months	5.90	5.80
144 Months	6.10	6.00
156 Months	6.30	6.20
168 Months	6.50	6.40
180 Months	6.70	6.60

For periods that do not equal an integral number of years, the rates may be interpolated to the upper quarter of a year but finer interpolations will be permitted to the equivalent of the nearest month. Thus, for example, the rates for a period from 0 to 3 months for the 14-day plan would be one-fourth of \$1.70 or \$0.43.

II. Opportunity for a Hearing

S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 69-11.1 (1989) provides that “every insurer which feels aggrieved by any of the rates so promulgated may request a public hearing with respect to such rate or rates” within 15 days. See S.C. Code Ann. Reg. 69-11.1 C (5) (1989). Accordingly, all requests for a hearing must be filed with the Department on or before August 16, 2008. Please direct your requests for a hearing to the attention of Jeffrey Jacobs, Chief Legal Counsel. Attach to your request for a hearing documentation supporting your position that the tentative rates for credit accident and health insurance need to be changed.

After all such hearings have been held, the final rate or an affirmation of the tentative rate shall be sent to all companies before October 1, 2008. Please direct any questions regarding this bulletin to the attention of Derek McKee at the address and number listed below.

Derek McKee
Assistant Actuary
South Carolina Department of Insurance
145 King St., Suite 207
Charleston, SC 29401
Telephone: 843-579-0527
Facsimile: 843-722-6105
E-mail: dmckee@doi.sc.gov